

Farm Data Information Network (FDIN)

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Introduction

FDIN is designed for FAO SEUR¹ – Farming system development to collect and provide farm related informations in region of Central and Eastern Europe. Adopted FDIN concept is based on fact that data ownership and maintaining are left on members level so FDIN will provide support in establishing in-country web sites containing data and informations and assistance for best using aviable sources.

FDIN solution

Proposed solution uses Microsoft Internet Information Server (MS IIS) with Index service installed while majority of MS Word and MS Excel documents are expected to be in use in member countries. MS IIS in konjuction with MS Word/Excel document properties provides faster search trough catalogue. However, on initial phase FDIN will not host those documents, only some basic data about every document will be aviable on web site.

Every country members must delegate person who will have authority to provide such informations. This person will have proper username and password for accesing FDIN web form for uploading informations – each document must be described within data:

- COUN - Country of origin – described as four letters code
- YEAR - Year of publishing – described as YYYY digits
- FSFT - Farming systems and farming type - described as six letters code
- FSRA - Farming systems resouces and assets - described as four letters code
- BUD - Budgets - described as four letters code
- TITLE - Document title
- URL - URL of document
- Provider of document – First and Last name of information provider

Optional information is short document description.

After submission of those data, FDIN generates e.mail to FDIN administrator with attached HTML document and requests validation of URL. HTML document contain META tag KEYWORDS with codes as follows: COUN, YEAR, FSFT, FSRA, BUD. Also, this document contains HTML tag TITLE and reffer to proper URL.

By putting this document to web folder under IIS, document will be indexed and aviable trough FDIN “Web catalogue” as FDIN catalogue record. Informations could be retrieved trough FDIN “Search” page by selecting document indetification parameters or by “Free text” search form.

Results of searching are displayed as a list of web site links described as:

- TITLE of catalogue record linked to URL of catalogue record
- URL of catalogue record linked to himself
- SIZE of catalogue record
- DATE of catalogue record

Records are ranked under 1-5 scale – 5 as result who maches most.

FDIN web site contains also “Farm data managenet glossary” with fully cross-referenced terms.

¹ FAO SEUR – Food and Agriculture Organization of The United Nation, Subregional Office for Central and Eastern Europe

Further development

FDIN system will be evaluated by end of year 2001. Using only HTML documents as catalogue record could be replaced with some SQL database as catalogue basis. Also server-side script for URL validation could also be used to automatize administrators work.

References

URL <http://www.fdin.agr.hr>